

BRIDGE ACROSS THE HUDSON RIVER BETWEEN NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

FEBRUARY 3 (calendar day, FEBRUARY 6), 1925.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. LADD, from the Committee on Commerce, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 4178]

The Committee on Commerce, to whom was referred the bill (S. 4178) to authorize the Port of New York Authority to construct, operate, maintain, and own a bridge across the Hudson River between the States of New York and New Jersey, have considered the same and report thereon with amendments, and as so amended, recommend that the bill do pass.

The bill thus amended has the approval of the Departments of War and Agriculture, as will appear by the annexed communications, the amendments referred to therein having been incorporated in the bill as reported.

On page 1, line 3, after the word "That," strike out all of sections 1 and 2 and insert the following:

The consent of Congress is hereby granted to the Port of New York Authority to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge and approaches thereto across the Hudson River, at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, and connecting a point between One hundred and seventieth Street and One hundred and eighty-fifth Street, Borough of Manhattan, New York City, with a point approximately opposite thereto in the Borough of Fort Lee, Bergen County, New Jersey, in accordance with the provisions of an act entitled "An act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters," approved March 23, 1906.

Page 3, line 5, strike out "3" and insert "2" in lieu thereof.

Same page, line 10, strike out sections 4 and 5.

Page 3, line 2, strike out "6" and insert "3" in lieu thereof.

Amend the title so as to read as follows:

To authorize the Port of New York Authority to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge across the Hudson River between the States of New York and New Jersey.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *February 5, 1925.*

Respectfully returned to the chairman Committee on Commerce, United States Senate.

The purpose of the accompanying bill (S. 4178, 68th Cong., 2d sess.) is to authorize the Port of New York Authority to construct, operate, maintain,

and own a bridge across the Hudson River between the States of New York and New Jersey. So far as the interests committed to this department are concerned, I know of no objection to the authorization of a bridge at the locality specified in this bill, but it is thought that such authorization should be granted in the usual form of such measures. The bill as introduced contains a number of recitations which are not essential to the grant, and section 2 as drawn will make the fixing of tolls subject only to section 2 of the general bridge act, whereas sections 3 and 4 of that act also contain provisions relative to tolls.

If the authority is granted in the usual form of bridge bills, the Port of New York Authority will have all necessary Federal authority to do all of the things mentioned in the bill as originally introduced. The copy of the bill has accordingly been amended to correspond to the usual form, and as thus amended I know of no objection to its favorable consideration.

JOHN W. WEEKS, *Secretary of War.*

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
Washington, February 3, 1925.

Hon. W. L. JONES,
*Chairman Committee on Commerce,
United States Senate.*

DEAR SENATOR JONES: I have your letter of February 2, inclosing a copy of S. 4178, with the request that the department submit such suggestions as it may deem proper regarding the merits of the bill and the propriety of its passage.

The bill proposes to authorize the Port of New York Authority to construct, operate, maintain, and own a bridge with necessary approaches thereto across the Hudson River from points between One hundred and seventieth Street and One hundred and eighty-fifth Street, Borough of Manhattan, New York City, and points approximately opposite thereto in the Borough of Fort Lee, Bergen County, N. J. The bill provides that the port authority may make and enforce such rules and regulations and establish and levy such charges and tolls for the use and operation of said bridge as it may be given power to do by the Legislatures of the States of New York and New Jersey and to apply the revenues derived therefrom as directed or permitted by said legislatures. The proposed structure is part of a comprehensive plan for the development of the port of New York adopted by the Legislatures of New York and New Jersey, and this department has no suggestions to offer regarding the bill.

Sincerely,

HOWARD M. GORE, *Secretary.*